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November 9, 1999

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Via Hand Delivery

**Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication, Revision of the Commission's Rules to  
Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems,  
CC Docket No. 94-102**

Dear Ms. Salas:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, notice is hereby given to an *ex parte* presentation regarding the above-captioned proceeding. On Monday, November 8, 1999, Bruce Beard and Susan Wichmann of SBC Wireless and I held a meeting with Mark Schneider of Chairman Ness's office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss cost recovery for E911 implementation. The attached material contains information discussed during the meeting.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, two copies of this letter are being provided for inclusion in the Commission's docket file. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to call me at the number listed above.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher E. Guttman-McCabe

Attachments

cc: Mark Schneider

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**FY 2000 PSAP FUNDING  
STATUS AS OF AUGUST 26****APPROVED FOR PAYMENT**

	<b>APPROVED</b>	<b>QUARTERLY</b>
ARLINGTON	\$172,044.00	\$43,011.00
FAIRFAX	\$1,266,295.00	\$316,573.75
LOUDOUN	\$39,745.00	\$9,936.25
PRINCE WILLIAM	\$291,402.00	\$72,850.50
HARRISONBURG	\$36,807.00	\$9,201.75
CHARLOTTESVILLE	\$194,274.00	\$48,568.50
PORTSMOUTH	\$167,028.00	\$41,757.00
YORK	\$96,445.00	\$24,111.25
VIRGINIA BEACH	\$185,571.00	\$46,392.75
HENRICO	\$124,343.00	\$31,085.75
NEWPORT NEWS	\$203,398.00	\$50,849.50
	<b>\$2,777,352.00</b>	<b>\$694,338.00</b>

**COST ESTIMATES APPROVED, AWAITING CERTIFICATION**

ALEXANDRIA	\$151,147.00	\$37,786.75
RICHMOND	\$63,500.00	\$15,875.00
CHESAPEAKE	\$154,356.00	\$38,589.00
POWHATAN	\$72,005.00	\$18,001.25
CHESTERFIELD	\$98,779.00	\$24,694.75
NORFOLK	\$230,541.00	\$57,635.25
LYNCHBURG	\$129,109.00	\$32,277.25
EASTERN SHORE	\$139,664.00	\$34,916.00
NAMPTON	\$268,996.00	\$67,249.00
SUFFOLK	\$109,154.00	\$27,288.50
	<b>\$1,417,251.00</b>	<b>\$354,312.75</b>

**AWAITING BOARD ACTION**

SHENANDOAH	\$188,439.00	\$47,109.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,383,042.00</b>	<b>\$1,095,760.50</b>

Who will take the wireless 911 calls?

Page 1 of 3



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**HEADLINE**

Thursday, August 06, 1998

**SPORTS**

75-cent monthly fee became effective July

**THE ARENA**

1

**EDITORIAL**

Who will take the wireless 911 calls?

**BUSINESS**

The service is mandated and funded, but officials

**EXTRA**

say they cannot handle more emergency calls.

**POLITICS**

**NEW EVENT CURRENT**

By **LOIS CALIRI**

**COLUMNIST**

THE ROANOKE TIMES

**CRIME**

Wireless phone users in Virginia got socked

**OBITUARY**

with a 75-cent monthly fee effective July 1 to

**CLASSIFIED**

fund an enhanced 911 system. The money will

**DUSTOWN**

pay for the technology localities will need to take

**SPECIAL SECTIONS**

the wireless-phone 911 calls now handled by the  
state police.



There's one problem: Funded or not, many  
localities in the Roanoke and New River valleys  
have no interest in taking the calls.



This case of lots of money -- an estimated \$4.8  
million in Virginia this year -- for localities that  
don't want it arose from a Federal  
Communications Commission mandate. The FCC  
ordered wireless phone companies to provide  
local 911 dispatchers with information that  
identifies and locates calls from cell phones. That  
would relay calls to the nearest locality rather than  
state police dispatchers, who may be far away.



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The state legislature voted in March to impose  
the 75-cent fee to pay for the technology, which  
would let dispatchers locate emergency calls made  
from cell phones within a couple of hundred feet.

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The wireless companies that provide service in  
Southwest Virginia, including Intelos, GTE  
Wireless and United States Cellular, are ready to  
roll out the enhanced service. The Virginia State  
Police, who say they're overburdened, want to  
relinquish responsibility for the calls.

**State Lottery**

**Newstand**

However, many localities, including Roanoke  
and Roanoke County, are not planning to take the  
911 calls from wireless phones.

"I understand the state police argument, but  
they're better equipped to handle where the calls

## Who will take the wireless 911 calls?

Page 2 of 3

should be routed because the current state police division handles multiple counties and multiple jurisdictions, and they respond to 50 percent of the wireless calls received," said Ron Wade, superintendent of communications for Roanoke.

Uncertainty over the funding plays a big part in the localities' reluctance. Nothing in the legislation spells out what the carriers -- who have invested money in creating the new technology -- and localities will get.

Under the original bill, 75 percent of the fees would go to the wireless carriers. But that caused the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials and 911-member National Emergency Number Association to oppose the measure, Wade said.

Instead, the carriers and localities will submit bills to a board, which has not yet been named. The board, which will consist of six members appointed by the governor, will decide how to divide the money between localities and carriers.

That doesn't reassure the localities.

"The bottom line [is] equipment costs," said Lt. Wayne Haynes of the Roanoke County police department.

"We're not eager to take the calls because of the upgrades and the equipment," said Jeff Dudley, deputy chief for the Salem Police Department. "It's my understanding that the fees will go to the cellular companies."

Other police in the region, including those in Botetourt County and Blacksburg, are busy upgrading their 911 systems for conventional phones, but say they're watching the cellular issue.

Montgomery County police said they will provide service for any 911 call, regardless of what it takes to provide that service.

When cell phones were introduced, consumers primarily used them in their cars, and emergency calls were related to highway accidents. But the explosion of hand-held wireless phones increased the number of calls.

"We get them from every place around, malls, shopping centers, groceries, supermarkets," said Capt. John Furlough, communications officer for the state police. "It's a really big problem for us,

## Who will take the wireless 911 calls?

Page 3 of 3

especially in the metropolitan areas."

Because wireless phones don't provide dispatchers with a phone number or location, the dispatchers have to determine that information, which police said presents a problem in an emergency situation.

The bill's sponsor, Del. Gladys Keating, D-Fairfax County, said localities will be pressured into taking the calls once the money starts coming in.

"Nobody's ready yet," said Keating, a former consumer lobbyist. "We're trying to get the money to pay for the setup."

If the state eventually mandates that localities take the 911 calls, Roanoke Valley officials said they would ask for an exemption.